

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 27 through 30 without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter therein.

Please amend Claims 1, 6, 12, and 16, and add Claims 31 and 32 to read as follows. Note that all the claims currently pending in this application, including those not presently being amended, have been reproduced below for the Examiner's convenience.

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C/ 1. (Currently Amended) A lens unit to be connected to a camera unit, said lens unit comprising:

→ a serial interface;

a control circuit having a first mode in which driving control is effected according to a signal from the camera unit or a signal from an external device and a second mode in which operation control is effected according to a signal from said lens unit; and

a setting circuit for detecting communication through said serial interface of the a signal from the camera unit or the external device at power on of a power supply of said lens unit and for automatically setting said second mode when the communication is absent, such that, in a case that the camera unit does not include a serial interface, resulting in the communication being absent, said setting circuit automatically sets the second mode.

2. (Previously Amended) The lens unit according to Claim 1, wherein said setting circuit sets a mode according to a communication signal transmitted when the communication is present.

3. (Previously Amended) The lens unit according to Claim 1, wherein said setting circuit sets the second mode when the communication is absent with a lapse of a predetermined time or more from the time of power on of the power supply.

4. (Previously Amended) The lens unit according to Claim 1, wherein said setting circuit sets the second mode when communication of a signal for specifying a mode is absent.

5. (Previously Amended) The lens unit according to Claim 1, wherein said lens unit comprises indication means for indicating a mode set by said setting circuit.

6. (Currently Amended) A camera system including a camera unit and a lens unit to be connected to said camera unit, wherein said lens unit includes a serial interface, said camera system comprising:

a control circuit having a first mode in which driving control is effected according to a signal from said camera unit or a signal from an external device and a second mode in which operation control is effected according to a signal from said lens unit; and

a setting circuit for detecting communication through said serial interface of ~~the~~ a signal from said camera unit or the external device at power on of a power supply of said lens unit and for automatically setting said second mode when the communication is absent, such that, in a case that the camera unit does not include a serial interface, resulting in the communication being absent, said setting circuit automatically sets the second mode.

wherein said control circuit and setting circuit are disposed in said lens unit.

7. (Previously Amended) The camera system according to Claim 6, wherein said setting circuit sets a mode according to a communication signal transmitted when the communication is present.

8. (Previously Amended) The camera system according to Claim 6, wherein said setting circuit sets the second mode when the communication is absent with a lapse of a predetermined time or more from the time of power on of the power supply.

9. (Previously Amended) The camera system according to Claim 6, wherein said setting circuit sets the second mode when communication of a signal for specifying a mode is absent.

10. (Previously Amended) The camera system according to Claim 6, wherein said lens unit comprises indication means for indicating a mode set by said setting circuit.

11. (Previously Amended) The camera system according to Claim 6, wherein said camera unit comprises indication means for indicating a mode set by said setting circuit.

12. (Currently Amended) A lens unit to be connected to a camera unit, said lens unit comprising:

a serial interface;

a control circuit having a first mode in which driving control is effected according to a signal from the camera unit or a signal from an external device and a second mode in which operation control is effected according to a signal from said lens unit; and

a setting circuit for automatically setting the second mode at power on of a power supply of said lens unit and for thereafter detecting serial communication through said serial interface of a digital signal from the camera unit or the external device, said setting circuit maintaining the second mode when the communication is absent, such that, in a case that the camera unit does not include a serial interface, resulting in the communication being absent, said setting circuit maintains the second mode.

13. (Previously Amended) The lens unit according to Claim 12, wherein said setting circuit sets a mode according to a communication signal transmitted when the communication is present.

14. (Previously Amended) The lens unit according to Claim 12, wherein said setting circuit maintains the second mode when the communication is absent with a lapse of a predetermined time or more from the time of power on of the power supply.

15. (Previously Amended) The lens unit according to Claim 12, wherein said setting circuit sets the second mode when communication of a signal for specifying a mode is absent.

16. (Currently Amended) A camera system including a camera unit and a lens unit to be connected to said camera unit, wherein said lens unit includes a serial interface, said camera system comprising:

a control circuit having a first mode in which driving control is effected according to a signal from said camera unit or a signal from an external device and a second mode in which operation control is effected according to a signal from said lens unit; and

a setting circuit for automatically setting the second mode at power on of a power supply of said lens unit and for thereafter detecting communication through said serial interface of ~~the~~ a signal from said camera unit or the external device, said setting circuit maintaining the second mode when the communication is absent, such that, in a case that the camera unit does not include a serial interface, resulting in the communication being absent, said setting circuit maintains the second mode.

wherein said control circuit and setting circuit are disposed in said lens unit.

17. (Previously Amended) The camera system according to Claim 16, wherein said setting circuit maintains the second mode when the communication is absent with a lapse of a predetermined time or more from the time of power on of the power supply.

18. (Previously Amended) The camera system according to Claim 16, wherein said setting circuit maintains the second mode when communication of a signal for specifying a mode is absent.

19. (Previously Added) The lens unit according to Claim 1, wherein the operation control is driving control.

20. (Previously Added) The lens unit according to Claim 1, wherein both the driving control and the operation control are focus control.

21. (Previously Added) The camera system according to Claim 6, wherein the operation control is driving control.

22. (Previously Added) The camera system according to Claim 6, wherein both the driving control and the operation control are focus control.

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23. (Previously Added) The lens unit according to Claim 12, wherein the operation control is driving control.

24. (Previously Added) The lens unit according to Claim 12, wherein both the driving control and the operation control are focus control.

25. (Previously Added) The camera system according to Claim 16, wherein the operation control is driving control.

26. (Previously Added) The camera system according to Claim 16, wherein both the driving control and the operation control are focus control.

27 - 30. (Cancelled)

²⁷/₂ (New) A lens unit to be connected to a camera unit, said lens unit

comprising:

a serial interface;

a control circuit having a first mode in which driving control is effected according to a signal from outside the lens unit and a second mode in which operation control is effected according to a signal from said lens unit; and

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a setting circuit for detecting communication through said serial interface of a signal from the camera unit at power on of a power supply of said lens unit and for automatically setting said second mode when the communication is absent, such that, in a case that the camera unit does not include a serial interface, resulting in the communication being absent, said setting circuit automatically sets the second mode.

²⁸/₂ (New) The lens unit according to Claim ²⁷/₂, wherein the signal from outside the lens unit is a signal from a focus instruction means.